

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04342 080801Z

11

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1156

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4342

FROM AMBASSADOR WOLLE MUSCAT

E.O. 11652: AODS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: RECENT OMANI VISITS TO KUWAIT AND JORDAN

1. MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ZAWAWI TOLD AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 5 HE RECENTLY UNDERTOOK BRIEF OFFICIAL TRIPS TO KUWAIT AND JORDAN AT OMANI INITIATIVE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS BRIEF EUROPEAN VACATION.

2. IN KUWAIT SEPT 19, ZAWAWI SAW FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER SECRETARY RASHID AL-RASHID. EXCHANGE WAS FRIENDLY ENOUGH BUT ACCORDING ZAWAWI THERE WAS NO PROGRESS OR MOVEMENT ON VARIOUS ISSUES DISCUSSED SUCH AS POLICIES TOWARD PDRY.

3. IN JORDAN SEPT 20, ZAWAWI WAS FLOWN TO AQABA TO SEE KING HUSSEIN. PURPOSES WERE TO INFORM HM OF OMAN'S CAUTIOUS
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 04342 080801Z

ATTITUDE TOWARD PAN-ARAB FORCE CONCEPT FOR DHOFAR, AND

HEAR KING'S CURRENT THINKING ON ARAB-ISRAEL SITUATION.
ON DHOFAR, KING STRONGLY ADVISED OMAN NOT TO COUNT ON
PAN-ARAB FORCE IN ANY SENSE AS SOMETHING THAT IN ANY MEDIUM-
RANGE TIME FRAME WOULD BE AN EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTE FOR BRITISH,
IRANIAN, JORDANIAN AND OTHER SUPPORT PRESENTLY IN THE FIELD.
ANYTHING ARABS MIGHT EVENTUALLY MOUNT WOULD, IN KING'S VIEW,
BE SMALL POTATOES AND OF QUESTIONABLE EFFECTIVENESS. (NOTE:
PRESUMABLY THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT ZAWAWI EXPECTED TO HEAR.)

4. ON ARAB-ISRAEL, KING FOCUSSED ON WEST BANK QUESTIONS.
HE FELT THAT BASED ON SUCH FACTORS AS HISTORY AND JORDANIAN
SUPPORT FOR WEST BANK INHABITANTS IT IS ONLY RIGHT THAT
JORDAN SHOULD SPEAK FOR WEST BANK AT THIS STAGE. IF IT
TURNED OUT OTHERWISE, THIS WOULD RAISE OTHER QUESTIONS
SUCH AS SOURCES AND METHODS BY WHICH WHATEVER ENTITY DEVELOPS
ON WEST BANK IS TO OBTAIN THE EXTENSIVE SUPPORT,
FINANCIAL AND OTHERWISE, THAT IT WOULD NEED TO BECOME
VIABLE AND PURSUE ITS LEGITIMATE OBJECTIVES. HM HAD
SPECULATED ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING WHAT WEST BANKERS
THEMSELVES WANT IN FUTURE RATHER THAN WHAT OUTSIDE PROFESSIONAL
PALESTINIANS HAVE IN MIND. ZAWAWI CAME AWAY WITH IMPRESSION
THAT WHILE KING NEITHER WANTS NOR INTENDS TO WASH HIS HANDS
COMPLETELY OF STRUGGLE FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS ON WEST BANK,
HE FEELS OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENTS OUGHT TO HAVE NO RIGHT TO
EXPECT JORDAN TO CONTINUE TAKING LEAD IN DAY-TO-DAY CARE
FOR INTERESTS OF WEST BANK RESIDENTS IF THEY DO NOT
ALLOW HER TO SPEAK FOR THEM IN CURRENT DISENGAGEMENT AND
PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.
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